

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method of sharing resources on a social network, the method comprising:
monitoring communications between a plurality of users and a user having a shared resource coupled to a computer system of the user, the shared resource to be shared amongst one or more of the plurality of users;
determining social network data from the communications between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, wherein each of the plurality of users has an ongoing relationship with the user having the shared resource and the social network data is based on varying degrees of interactions between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, wherein the communication includes communicating via emails between each of the plurality of users having the shared resources, wherein the emails are identified and counted;
determining an access level for each of the plurality of users based on the social network data including the identified and counted emails, wherein the access level is selected from a group consisting of a read-only access, a read/write access, an execute access, a create access, an owner access, a no access, an all access, and a control access; and
configuring an access control list to provide each of the plurality of users the access level determined for accessing the shared resource.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the social network data includes one or more of identities of the plurality of users and the

user having the shared resource, a frequency of interaction between all users for a time period, a chronology of the communications, a topic of the communications, and resources attached to the communications.

4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the access control list includes a user identification and the access level for the user.
6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the shared resource comprises one or more of a file, a directory, a user, an input/output device, a peripheral device, portable electronic devices, and a computer system.

Claims 7-15 (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A communications system comprising:
a computer system having a processor coupled with a storage medium, the computer system a network to control user access for to a shared resource via an access-control list controller, the shared resource including a data processing device, and the access controller including a first module being executed on the computer system, the network-computer system further having a network monitor coupled with a network-the access controller, the network monitor including a second module being executed on the computer system, the network monitor to
monitor communications between a plurality of users and a user having the shared resource coupled to a computing device of the user, and determine social network data from the communications between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, wherein each of the plurality of users has a relationship with the

user having the shared resource and the social network data is based on varying degrees of interactions between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, wherein the communication includes communicating via emails between each of the plurality of users having the shared resources, wherein the emails are identified and counted; and

the network access controller to

determine an access level for each of the plurality of users based on the social network data including the identified and counted emails, wherein the access level is selected from the group consisting of a read/write access, a write-only access, an execute access, a create access, an owner access, a no access, an all access, and a control access, and

configure ~~the~~ a access control list to provide each of the plurality of users the access level determined for accessing the shared resource.

17. (Cancelled)
18. (Previously Presented) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the social network data includes one or more of identities of each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, a frequency of interaction between all users for a time period, a chronology of the communications, a topic of the communications, and resources attached to the communications.
19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the access control list includes a user identification and the access level for the user.
21. (Currently Amended) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the shared resource comprises one or more of a file, a directory, a user, an input/output device, a peripheral device, a portable electronic device, and a computer system.
22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the social network data includes monitoring communications for particular keyword(s), wherein the access level is granted based on the number of occurrences of the particular keyword(s).
23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein different weights are assigned to different keywords, wherein certain keywords have higher weights than other keywords.

Claims 24-25 (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the social network data includes monitoring communications for particular keyword(s), wherein the access level is granted based on the number of occurrences of the particular keyword(s).
27. (Previously Presented) The communications system according to claim 26, wherein different weights are assigned to different keywords, wherein certain keywords have higher weights than other keywords.
28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising continuously updating the access control list to add and remove entries or to

- change access levels as the users transition in and out of the social network or as communications between the users changes.
29. (Currently Amended) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the ~~network~~-access controller is further to continuously update the access control list to add and remove entries or to change access levels as users transition in and out of a social network or as communications between the users change.
30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the communications comprise one or more of emails, instant messages, file transfers, commands sent from one computer system to another, and any other types of communications performed between the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource.
31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein determining social network data comprises:
identifying communications from the user having the shared resource to each of the plurality of users;
identifying communications from each of the plurality of users to the user having the shared resource; and
tallying each identified communication for each of the plurality of users.
32. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein determining an access level comprises:
obtaining a total number of communications with the user having the shared resource for each of the plurality of users based on the social network data;

comparing the total number of communications for each of the plurality of users to an access level table to obtain the access level, the access level table comprising a plurality of access levels based on the total number of communications; and
assigning an access level to each of the plurality of users.

33. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium having instructions which, when executed, cause a machine to:
- monitor communications between a plurality of users and a user having a shared resource coupled to a computer system of the user, the shared resource to be shared amongst one or more of the plurality of users;
- determine social network data from the communications between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, wherein each of the plurality of users has an ongoing relationship with the user having the shared resource and the social network data is based on varying degrees of interactions between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, wherein the communication includes communicating via emails between each of the plurality of users having the shared resources, wherein the emails are identified and counted;
- determine an access level for each of the plurality of users based on the social network data including the identified and counted emails, wherein the access level is selected from a group consisting of a read-only access, a read/write access, an execute access, a create access, an owner access, a no access, an all access, and a control access; and

- configure an access control list to provide each of the plurality of users the access level determined for accessing the shared resource.
34. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 33, wherein the social network data includes one or more of identities of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, a frequency of interaction between all users for a time period, a chronology of the communications, a topic of the communications, and resources attached to the communications.
35. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 33, wherein the access control list includes a user identification and the access level for the user.
36. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 33, wherein the shared resource comprises one or more of a file, a directory, a user, an input/output device, a peripheral device, portable electronic devices, and a computer system.
37. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 33, wherein the social network data includes monitoring communications for particular keyword(s), wherein the access level is granted based on the number of occurrences of the particular keyword(s).
38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 37, wherein different weights are assigned to different keywords, wherein certain keywords have higher weights than other keywords.
39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 33, wherein the instructions when executed, further cause the machine to

continuously update the access control list to add and remove entries or to change access levels as the users transition in and out of the social network or as communications between the users changes.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 33, wherein the communications comprise one or more of emails, instant messages, file transfers, commands sent from one computer system to another, and any other types of communications performed between the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 33, wherein determining social network data comprises:

identifying communications from the user having the shared resource to each of the plurality of users;

identifying communications from each of the plurality of users to the user having the shared resource; and

tallying each identified communication for each of the plurality of users.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 33, wherein determining an access level comprises:

obtaining a total number of communications with the user having the shared resource for each of the plurality of users based on the social network data;

comparing the total number of communications for each of the plurality of users to an access level table to obtain the access level, the access level table comprising a plurality of access levels based on the total number of communications; and

assigning an access level to each of the plurality of users.